

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/750,640

Examiner

Philip H Leung

Applicant(s)

BARTZ, KATHLEEN M.

Art Unit

3742

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-24.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

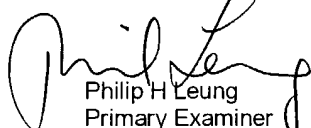
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 1-02-2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 8-03-2004.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Philip H Leung
Primary Examiner
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Theresa Orr on 8-03-2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

1 (Amended). A method [for] of monitoring the amount of cycles attributable to an induction heating coil comprising the steps of:

providing an induction heating coil with a counting sensor,

generating a magnetic field about said induction heating coil ; and

triggering said counting sensor [when] to increase the count in response to said magnetic field [is generated].

3 (Amended). The method of claim 2, wherein said counting sensor is removably attached to said induction heating coil.

4 (Amended). The method of claim 2, wherein said counting sensor is embedded within said induction heating coil.

8 (Amended). The method of claim 1, wherein said counting sensor is an identifier of said induction heating coil, and further comprising the step of: said identifier triggering an external data source to consecutively count each time said induction heating coil is cycled.

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9 (Amended). The method of claim 8, wherein said counting sensor is removably attached to said induction heating coil.

10 (Amended). The method of claim 8, wherein said counting sensor is embedded within said induction heating coil.

12 (Amended). A method [for] of monitoring the amount of cycles attributable to an induction coil of an induction coil assembly, said assembly comprising a power supply and an induction coil subassembly including said induction coil and a bus bar connecting said coil to said power supply, the method comprising the steps of:

providing an induction coil subassembly with a counting sensor, wherein said counting sensor comprises a sensor for receiving and outputting counting data;

generating a magnetic field about said coil ;

triggering said counter when said magnetic field is generated, wherein said counting sensor consecutively counts a cycle each time said magnetic field is generated about said coil;

maintaining said coil within said induction coil subassembly and continuing to consecutively count said cycles until said coil fails,

reading said output data of said counting sensor, wherein said output data comprises the total amount of consecutive cycles sustained by said coil; and

establishing a baseline lifespan for said coil based on said output data.

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19 (Amended). A method [for] of monitoring the amount of cycles attributable to an induction coil of an induction coil assembly comprising a power supply and an induction coil subassembly comprising said induction coil and a bus bar connecting said induction coil to said power supply, wherein an average baseline lifespan for said induction coil has been established, the method comprising the steps of:

providing said induction coil subassembly with a counting sensor, wherein said counting mechanism comprises a sensor for receiving and outputting counting data;

generating a magnetic field about said coil ;

triggering said counting sensor when said magnetic field is generated, wherein said counting sensor consecutively counts a cycle each time said magnetic field is generated about said coil;

reading said output data of said counting sensor, wherein said output data comprises the total amount of consecutive cycles sustained by said coil;

monitoring said consecutive cycles sustained by said coil by reading said output data; and

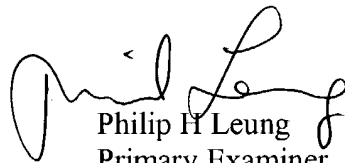
recommending replacing said coil prior to failure of said coil if said cycles are within a pre-determined range of said average baseline lifespan for [said] the like coils.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip H Leung whose telephone number is (703) 308-1710.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on (703) 305-5766. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Philip H Leung
Primary Examiner
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P.Leung/pl
8-03-2004